Scheme for construction of houses in NER

1869. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes which are being implemented for construction of houses in the rural and sub-rural areas in North-East Region, particularly in Assam;

(b) what is the cost of construction of each such unit; and

(c) the total allocation made for this scheme in Assam indicating the details of utilisation made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) under which assistance is provided for the construction of houses for rural BPL families in all States/Union Territories including the State of Assam except Delhi and Chandigarh.

(b) Under the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), present ceiling of assistance for construction of new houses is Rs. 25,000/- per unit for the plain areas and Rs. 27,500/- per unit for the hilly/difficult areas, which is applicable with effect from 1.4.2004. The upper limit in respect of conversion of *kutcha* houses into semi/pucca houses (Upgradation) is Rs. 12,500/- per unit, which is also applicable from 1st April, 2004.

(c) During the current financial year 2005-06, against the Central allocation of Rs. 20994.23 lakh, an amount of Rs. 10387.19 lakh has been released as 1st instalment under the IAY to the State of Assam.

Anomalies in FFWP

1870. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food for Work Programme (FFWP) is implemented in all selected districts;

(b) if so, the details of funds allotted and utilised, number of villages selected, daily wage fixed as on today, district-wise, category-wise and State-wise;